

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Non-Final Office Action dated November 16, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1, 7, 8 and 10 have been amended and claim 6 has been canceled. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7, 8 and 10-19 are presently pending for consideration.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-8 and 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over 2002-333628(hereinafter ‘628’) in view of 5511591 (hereinafter ‘591’).

The rejection of claims 1-8 and 10-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Independent claim 1 teaches a combination of elements including a feature of ‘forming at least one second column spacer in the dummy area’ and ‘forming at least one third column spacer in the peripheral area, wherein the second column spacer and the third column spacer are located on both sides of the sealant’.

However, Applicants submit that the cited references including ‘628 and ‘591 do not teach or suggest at least the features of the present invention. For example, ‘628 discloses that spacer 5 is formed on the outside 17a of display area in Fig 9 and does not disclose ‘forming at least one second column spacer in the dummy area’ and ‘forming at least one third column spacer in the peripheral area, wherein the second column spacer and the third column spacer are located on both sides of the sealant’, as recited in Independent claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that because the cited references including ‘628 and ‘591 do not teach or suggest at least the above identified elements of independent claim 1, independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited references. Additionally, Applicants submit that claims 2-5, 7, 8 and 10-19 depending from claim 1 are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and discussion place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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